



Tim Kabat

Mayor

City of La Crosse

Extension of Emergency Declaration

Be it known that on this day, pursuant to the authority vested in my office by the City of La Crosse, it is hereby declared that a City State of Emergency continues to exist in the City of La Crosse, Wisconsin, as of April 2, 2020 and is hereby extended for an additional 180 days for the following specific reason(s):

WHEREAS, a novel strain of the coronavirus emerged in 2019. This virus has caused the disease known as COVID-19. Since its detection, COVID-19 has subsequently spread throughout numerous countries around the world including the United States; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has also impacted Wisconsin with the first case being reported on February 5, 2020 and new cases, hospitalizations and deaths being reported daily; and

WHEREAS, Governor Tony Evers declared a statewide Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19 on March 12, 2020 and has extended said emergency declaration; and

WHEREAS, the City of La Crosse has joined the local business community and health organizations as well as regional, state and federal governments in efforts to limit the spread of the virus which causes the COVID-19 disease by modifying the provision of municipal services so as to comply with public direction provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and the Office of the Governor for the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the first confirmed case in La Crosse County occurred on Wednesday, March 18, 2020; and

WHEREAS, local COVID-19 new case numbers, positivity rates, and hospitalizations continue at rates that exceed the severe levels and is causing negative impacts to schools, businesses and health care; and

WHEREAS, the City continues to follow through with and adapt operating plans to protect the community from the spread of this disease and to prepare for the long and short-term impacts it may have on the community; and

WHEREAS, the City anticipates additional costs in capital and human resources as the organization modifies service delivery to maintain the safety of employees, residents and visitors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Based on these circumstances, I find that the anticipated costs required to fulfill our municipal role will likely exceed available financial resources and thereby cause a hardship for the City of La Crosse. In addition, COVID-19 continues to create significant negative impacts to our community including schools, businesses, employment and health care.

Therefore, the City of La Crosse will be seeking additional financial support to address local needs as the COVID-19 pandemic unfolds in the La Crosse area and will continue advocacy and communication for necessary public health measures to protect the public's health, safety and general welfare.

The City Clerk is directed to place this Declaration of Emergency on the agenda of the next meeting of the La Crosse Common Council for its review, ratification, modification or repeal.

Dated: December 7, 2020

Signed by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Kabat". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Timothy Kabat, Mayor
City of La Crosse